STILETTO HEELS TEAM

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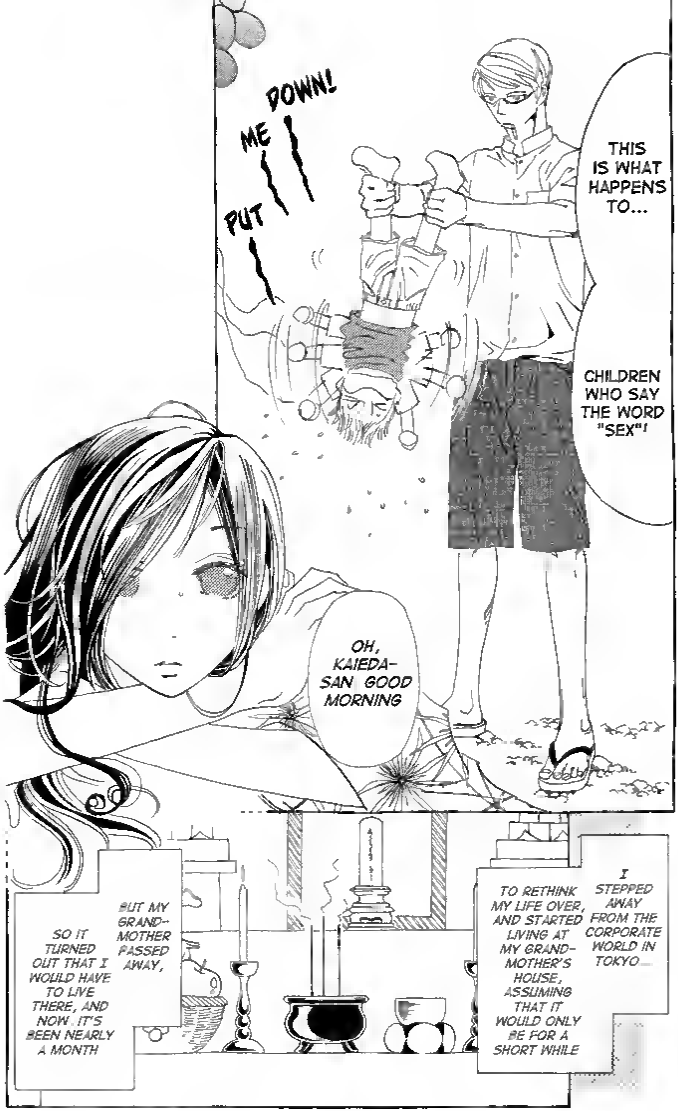
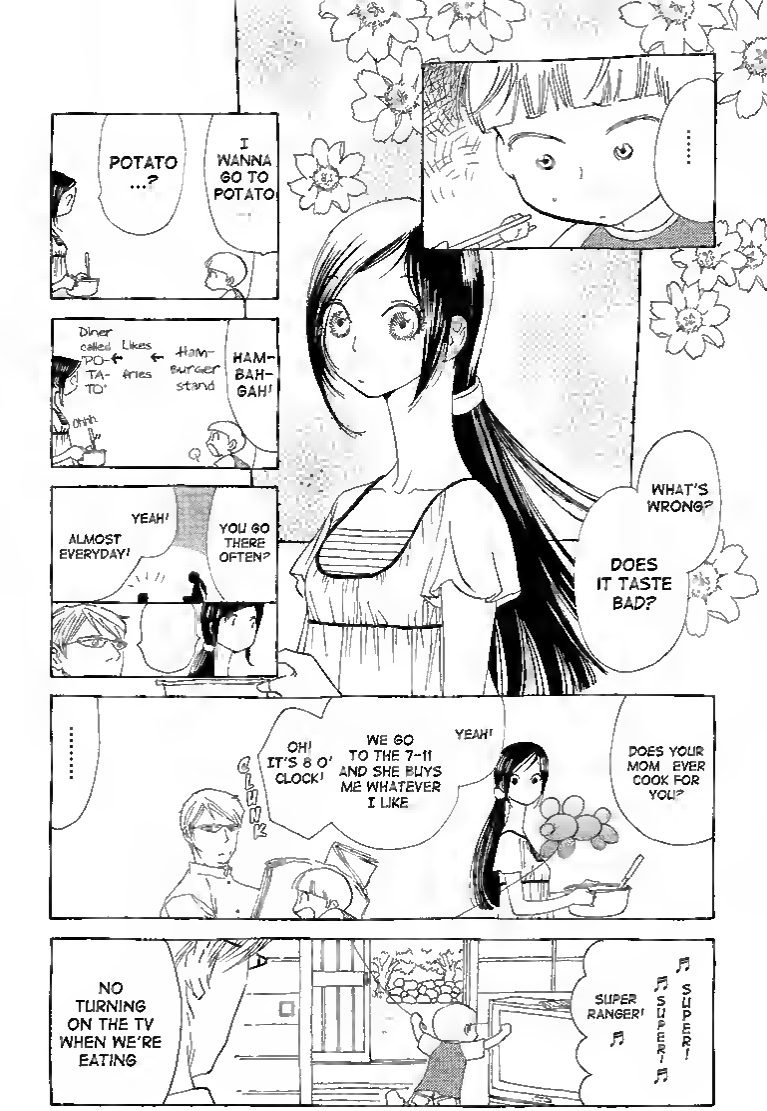
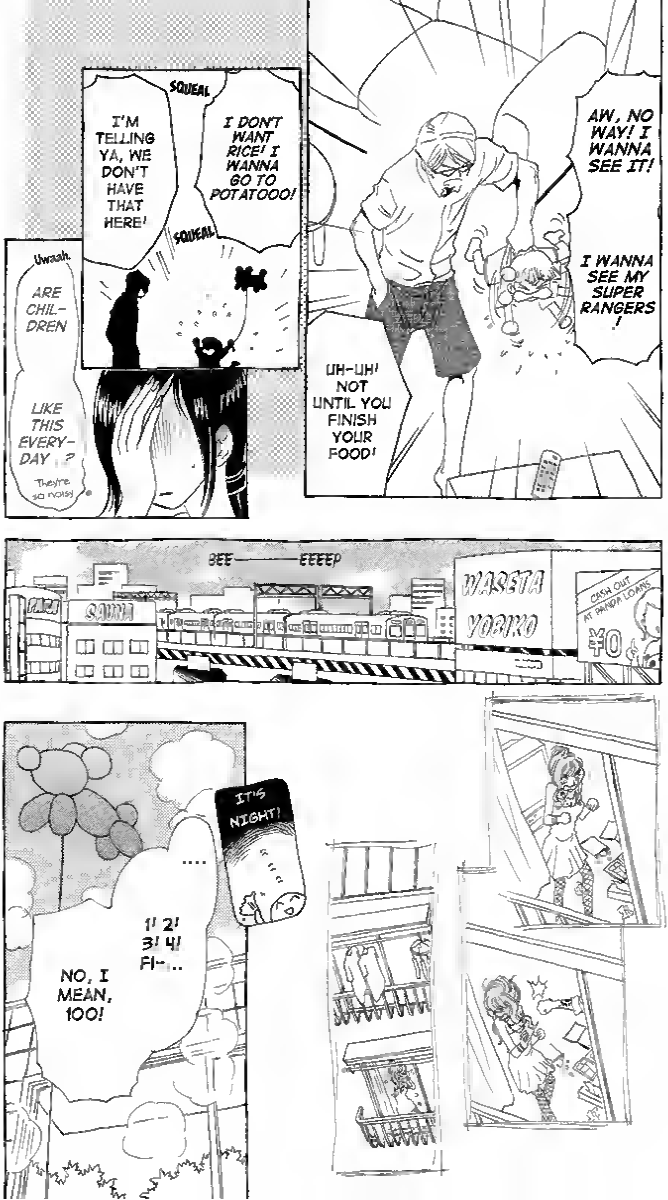
VOLUME 2, CH. 10

DO YOU GUYS HAVE SEX?
HEY!
HEY!
IT'S MORNING!
UNCLE?
AUNTY?
Eek!
Tweet
Tweet
CH. 10
WHO ARE YOU? 2
LOOK... MAKOTO-KUN...
Why noooo?
YOU SHOULDN'T SAY THINGS LIKE THAT IN FRONT OF OTHER PEOPLE...
LET'S SEE...
WANT UNCLE HERE TO TEACH YA?
GULP


PUT ME DOWN!
THIS IS WHAT HAPPENS TO...
CHILDREN WHO SAY THE WORD "SEX"!
OH, KAIEDA-SAN GOOD MORNING
I STEPPED AWAY FROM THE CORPORATE WORLD IN TOKYO...
TO RETHINK MY LIFE OVER, AND STARTED LIVING AT MY GRAND-MOTHER'S HOUSE, ASSUMING THAT IT WOULD ONLY BE FOR A SHORT WHILE
BUT MY GRAND-MOTHER PASSED AWAY,
SO IT TURNED OUT THAT I WOULD HAVE TO LIVE THERE, AND NOW IT'S BEEN NEARLY A MONTH

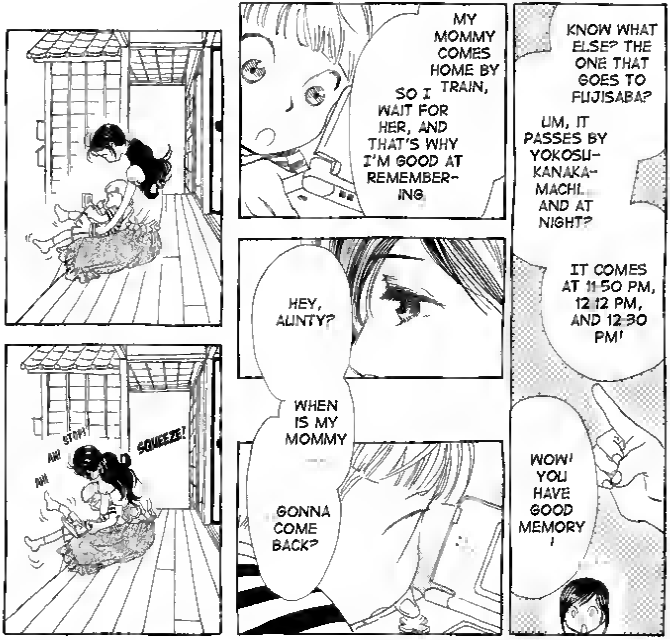
MAKOTO-KUN, WHERE DID YOU GET THAT BALLOON?
UM, KNOW WHAT? IT WAS THERE WHEN I WOKE UP
I REQUESTED TO WORK FROM HOME
AND I'M ABOUT TO TACKLE GEOTHERMAL ELECTRIC POWER GENERATION IN THE REGION
AND WHAT CAME TO MY ROOMMATE (WHO USED TO HAVE A CRUSH ON MY GRANDMOTHER) AND I
WAS AN ABANDONED CHILD
WONDER WHO COULD HAVE BROUGHT IT
SHE DID IT
Really it was this guy
SOURN
SOURN
.....
Bought a wooden container for rice
IS HE EMBARRASSED?


POTATO ...?
I WANNA GO TO POTATO!
Diner called Likes "PO-TA-TO" ← fries ← Ham-burger stand
HAM-BAH-GAH!
Ohhh
YEAH! ALMOST EVERYDAY!
YOU GO THERE OFTEN?
WHAT'S WRONG?
DOES IT TASTE BAD?
.....
OH! IT'S 8 O' CLOCK!
CLINK
WE GO TO THE 7-11 AND SHE BUYS ME WHATEVER I LIKE
YEAH!
DOES YOUR MOM EVER COOK FOR YOU?
NO TURNING ON THE TV WHEN WE'RE EATING
SUPER RANGER!
♬ SUPER! ♬ SUPER! ♬


AW, NO WAY! I WANNA SEE IT!
I WANNA SEE MY SUPER RANGERS!
UH-UH! NOT UNTIL YOU FINISH YOUR FOOD!
SQUEAL
I DON'T WANT RICE! I WANNA GO TO POTATOOO!
SQUEAL
I'M TELLING YA, WE DON'T HAVE THAT HERE!
Uwaah.
ARE CHILDREN LIKE THIS EVERYDAY...?
They're so noisy.
BEE————EEEEP
WASETA YOSHIKO
CASH OUT AT PAYDAY LOANS
¥0
SAMPA
IT'S NIGHT!
....
1! 2! 3! 4! FI-...
NO, I MEAN, 100!

SPLASH
I DON'T WANT RICE! I WANNA GO TO POTATO!
There isn't any
BEEP BEEP
MORNING
SHUT UP
SPLASH
I HATE BATHS.
AWW, BUT I WANNA GET OUT! NO MORE! I HATE BATHS!
NO CHEATING
STOMP
STOMP
MORNING!
NIGHT!
STOMP!
STOMP!
ACCHH!
ACCHH!
STOMP
STOMP
THUD
THUD
Sorrow out
PHEW
Worn out from everything
SORRY, OKAY?
AUNTY HAS WORK TO DO TODAY
WANNA BATTLE WITH CARDS?

SAH
SOOOH...
DO KIDS HIS AGE ACT LIKE HIM? THEY SHOULD BE MORE
"I'M USED TO BEING HOME ALL BY MYSELF."
YES, HE DID SAY THAT, BUT HE PROBABLY GETS TOLD TO PLAY BY HIMSELF, SO HE JUST DOES WHAT HE'S TOLD
OH!
UM, KNOW WHAT?
THAT TRAIN JUST NOW? IT GOES TO SENDAI STATION AND FINISHES AT NISHITSURUMI STATION AT 2 PM.
WHAT?
GOOD JOB FOR REMEMBER-ING!
Squeeze
STOP! THAAAT TICKLES!


MY MOMMY COMES HOME BY TRAIN, SO I WAIT FOR HER, AND THAT'S WHY I'M GOOD AT REMEMBERING.
KNOW WHAT ELSE? THE ONE THAT GOES TO FUJISABA?
UM, IT PASSES BY YOKOSU-KANAKA-MACHI... AND AT NIGHT?
IT COMES AT 11:50 PM, 12:12 PM, AND 12:30 PM!
WOW! YOU HAVE GOOD MEMORY!
HEY, AUNTY?
WHEN IS MY MOMMY GONNA COME BACK?
AH! STOP!
AH
SQUEEZE!

WHACK

WANNA GO UPSIDE DOWN AGAIN?
NO.
COME QUICK CARRY THESE THEY'RE PILIN' UP
CHOP
CHOP
I'LL SUE YOU FOR CHILD ABUSE!
COME ON CARRY THESE TO THE BATHROOM
WE DO IT HERE
Those are Aunty's orders.
WE DON'T DO THIS AT MY HOUSE.
DON'T WANNA!
REALLY ?!
Psst
WHEN YOU'RE DONE, I'LL GIVE ALL THE ICECREAM TO YOU
RATTLE
SWAY
SWAY
ROLL!
Ummmph
Whoa! Whoa! Whoa!
0 mph

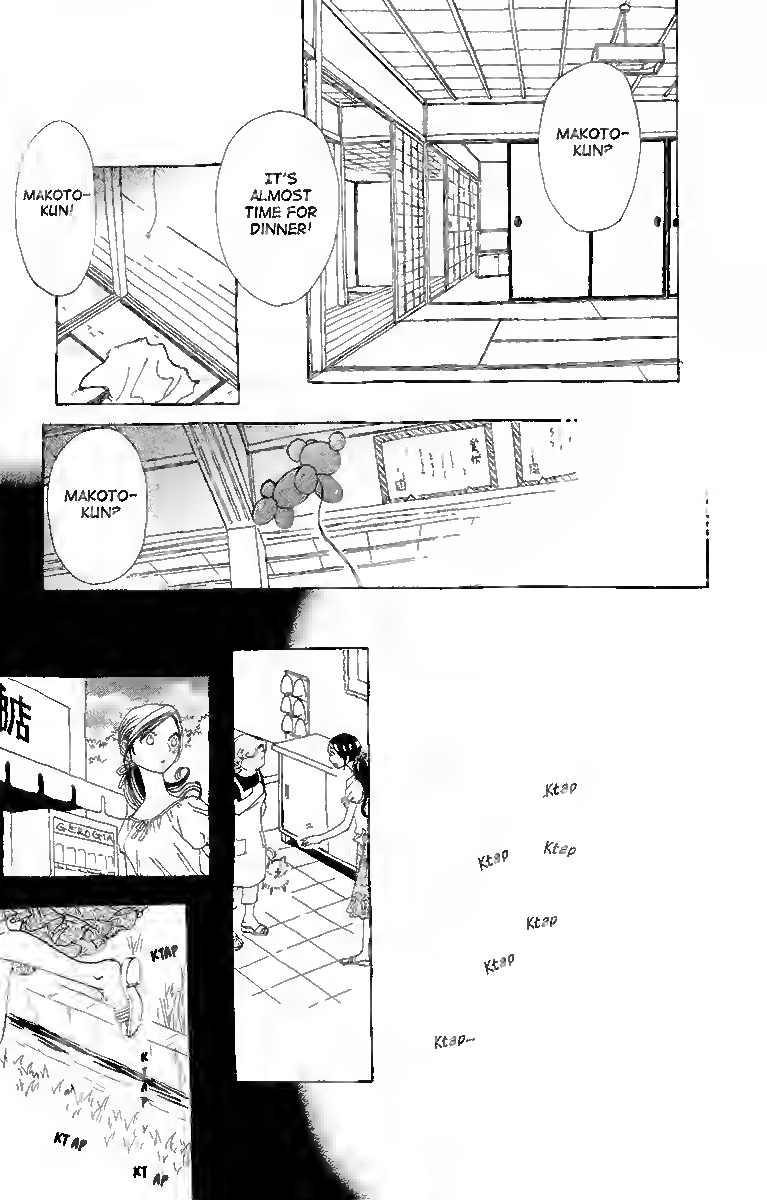
SO YOU CAN DO IT
GOT MORE STRENGTH THAN I EXPECTED
HEAVE-HO!
HEAVE-HO!
THIS IS NOTHING!
HEAVE-HO!
PERHAPS IT'S NOT SUCH A BAD IDEA...
SHOULD... THE THREE OF US STAY LIKE THIS...?
KLUNK KLUNK KLUNK KLUNK
CHU-KOOON!

CLANK
CLANK
CLANK CLANK
HMM IT WILL...BUT IT TAKES A REALLY LONG TIME.
IF WE RIDE THAT TRAIN, WILL IT TAKE US TO YOKOSU-KANAKA-MACHI?
CLANK
CLANK
CLANK
CLANK
CLANK
YOU'RE NOT GOIN' BY YOURSELF.
I'LL SAY THIS STRAIGHT TO YOU.
IT'S NOT SOMEWHERE YOU CAN GO BACK TO ALL BY YOURSELF.
YOUR MOM LEFT YOU HERE WITH US

KICK!
DON'T HURT MEEE!
WHAP
WHAP
WHAP
CLANK
NO, IT'S NOT!
WHAT MOTHER WOULD PLAY HIDE-AND-SEEK BY SHOVIN HER KID IN A CLOSET FOR THREE DAYS?
YOU THINK IT'S STRANGE TOO, DON'T YOU?
KA-
KAIEDA-SAN!
YOUR MOM THINKS OF YOU AS BAGGAGE
CLANK
NO, SHE DOESN'T!
M-MOMMY IS PLAYING HIDE-AND-SEEK!
DON'T KNOW WHAT HER REASONS ARE, BUT...
WAH
WAH
KAIEDA-SAN!
YOU CAN'T DO THAT TO A CHILD HIS AGE...
HE CAN'T POSSIBLY UNDER-STAND THE SITUA-TION!
YOU'RE SO MEAN!
GO AHEAD AND CRY IF YOU WANT,
BUT YOUR MOM MIGHT NEVER COME BACK.

HE'S... SO COLD...
HOW COULD YOU... SAY THAT TO HIM?
THEN YOU TELL ME... WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THE KID'S MOTHER?
STILL TO MAKOTO, SHE'S... HIS ONE AND ONLY...
YOU'RE A SMART GAL, BUT YOU LACK IMAGINATION...

BETTER NOT TO GET ATTACHED TO THE KID, MORE THAN NECESSARY
I CAN'T AVOID THAT WE'RE LIVING TOGETHER...
WHAT-EVER HAPPENS TO THE BOY,
WE'RE NOT THE FIRST ONES TO DECIDE THAT'S THE COLD, HARD TRUTH
GLUG
GLUG
GLUG...


MAKOTO-KUN!
IT'S ALMOST TIME FOR DINNER!
MAKOTO-KUN?
MAKOTO-KUN?
GROCERIES
KTAP
KTAP
KTAP
KTAP
KTAP
KTAP
KTAP
KTAP--

SCREECH
RIVER
HARBOR
SUPER-MARKET
THE OTHER PLACE WE WERE TOGETHER WAS...
DING DONG
DING DONG
DING DONG
BAH-ROOOOM...
BIKU-BIKU
BIKU-BIKU

...TAP
HELLO, LITTLE GUY...
HEY, LITTLE GUY...
YOU ALL ALONE...?

VROOM

STOP CRYIN'. YOU'RE GETTIN' ON MY NERVES.
IT'S YOUR FAULT FOR SAYING THAT TO HIM!
YOU SURE THIS IS THE FAST ROADWAY? WE'RE SURROUNDED BY MOUNTAINS.
YOU COULD... SAY WHATEVER YOU WANT TO ME, BUT... NOT TO MAKOTO-KUN...
I'M NOT CRYING!
YAAANK
THUNK
LISTEN TO WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAY-
SCREECH!
SLAM
I'M GETTING OFF HERE
WHERE DO I PARK?
ANY-WHERE!
KEEP CALM.
click
CALM DOWN.
UWAAAAAN!
KEEP CALM...
SENDAI STATION

Want some candy?
駅事務所
STATION OFFICE
KA-CHAK
SAFETY FIRST
CHECK FIRST
HEALTH FIRST
KINKI TOUR
-Kyoto Osaka, and Nara-
TOKYO DISNEYLAND
駅事務所
MAKOTO-KUN...
THANK GOOD-
WHAT THE HELL WERE YOU DOING?!

DO YOU KNOW HOW WORRIED ...
...YOU MADE HER?!
AND YOU MADE MORE WORK FOR THE STATION EMPLOYEES TOO!
ARE YOU CRAZY?!

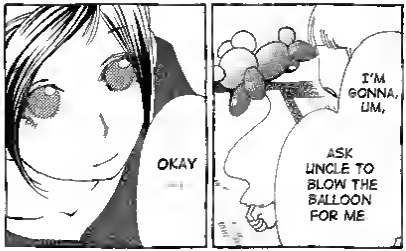
JR SAGAMI STATION

I NEVER HAD THE CHANCE TO ASK...
...ABOUT YOUR CHILDHOOD, KAIEDA-SAN.
TODAY'S A BAD DAY...
IS IT REALLY ...?
OH ...
THANK GOD
THE STATION WORKERS NOTICED HIM BEFORE HE GOT ON
GOOD GRIEF
WHACKY KID...
YOU'RE TALKING LIKE THAT AGAIN...
THE REASON WHY I SAID THAT YOU LACKED IMAGINATION IS THAT...

...THE WORLD IS FULL OF PARENTS THOUGHT-LESSLY ABANDONING THEIR OWN CHILDREN.
SOMEONE LIKE YOU, WHO WAS RAISED UP LOVINGLY BY BOTH PARENTS, PROBABLY WOULDN'T UNDERSTAND THAT.
I WAS... ...TWO YEARS OLD.
I FOUND OUT I WAS ABAN-DONED IN FRONT OF THE ADOPTION CENTER
IN MY SECOND YEAR OF MIDDLE SCHOOL.
MY FOSTER MOTHER REALLY CARED FOR ME,
SO I GREW UP THIKING OF HER AS MY REAL MOTHER.
SOMETHING HAPPENED AND I FOUND OUT MY BLOOD TYPE WAS DIFFERENT FROM HERS...
BUT...

WHAT MADE ME HAPPY WAS THAT...
I HAD NO MEMORIES OF MY REAL PARENTS.
AND THAT I HAVE NEVER GONE TO MEET HEM, NOT EVEN ONCE
THAT'S ENOUGH, KAEDA-SAN... NOT TODAY...
ONE DAY...
THIS KID WILL LEARN NOT TO RELY ON HIS PARENTS
STRONG
HE'S GONNA HAVE TO LEARN HOW TO LIVE BY BEING STRONG.
STRONG...

click
R
R
R


OKAY
I'M GONNA, UM,
ASK UNCLE TO BLOW THE BALLOON FOR ME

Yaaay!
I FINALLY GET TO EAT AT POTATO
I SEE...

LISTEN
IF YOU GO ON THE TRAIN FROM "YOKOSUKANAKA-MACHI" AND FOLLOW THE RED LINE DRAWN, YOU'LL BE ABLE TO COME TO THIS HOUSE
GOT IT?
THIS IS A "TIMETABLE"
What are you writing?

I WROTE SOMETHING DOWN SO THAT IT'LL COME HERE.
IF ANYTHING HAPPENS, JUST WRITE ON THE BLANK SPACE, AND PUT IT IN THE MAILBOX.
THE RED LINE
-Here?
AND YEP THIS IS A "POSTCARD"
THEN, IF YOU'RE "HAPPY", JUST DRAW A "CIRCLE".
I DON'T KNOW HOW TO WRITE YET!
YOU'RE SMART, SO YOU CAN DO IT, RIGHT?
UNDER-STAND?
SLAM
YEAH!
Step out
SORRY, MM'KAY?
.....

AH!
SNAP
NO!
WHY'RE YOU TAKING THAT WITH YOU?
THROW IT AWAY. IT'S JUST TRASH
OH, NAH, THAT'S OKAY.
LET'S GO, MAKOTO.
POTATO? YEAH. ON THE WAY HOME.
OH...
HOW ABOUT TEA?
WELL THEN...
Be quiet
NO! I WANNA TAKE IT WITH ME.
WE BID FAREWELL
WE LOSE PEOPLE
SO TELL ME, THEN, WHY MUST PEOPLE MEET?
SNAP

2
I DON'T WANT TO LOVE ANYONE ANYMORE
IT'S OKAY
HE'S LEARNED NOT TO LIKE HAMBURGERS ANYMORE
I'M SURE HE'S GONNA TELL HIS MOM THAT
YOUR COOKING IS BETTER
I CAME HERE BECAUSE THAT'S HOW I FELT